

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission  
Transportation Advisory Committee**

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2017

Attendees: Dick Jones, John Yacavone, Stacey Chiochio, Scott Sweet, Van Chestnut, Jonathan Edwards, Adam Ricker, Meghan Butts, Bill Watson

**I. Call to Order**

Chair, Van Chestnut called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**II. Action on Minutes from January 31, 2017**

Ms. Chiochio made the motion to approve the minutes from January 31, 2017. Mr. Jones seconded the motion to approve.

**III. NH DOT – Bill Watson Presentation on Decision Lens Software**

Guest Speaker Bill Watson from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation gave a presentation on Decision Lens software and its use with scoring and prioritization with the Ten-Year Plan process.

**Key Highlights and Questions**

- The group reviewed NH DOT's project selection criteria.
- NH DOT's repair philosophy is to keep the good roads good. Bad roads continue to be bad until there is more revenue. This is the most cost-effective philosophy in the long run.
- NH DOT will prioritize projects on roads serving state or region before local-state roads.
- NH DOT will prioritize the worst bridges first ie. those that are Red Listed.
- NH DOT uses crash rates with traffic volume to evaluate safety by crashes per volume.
- Transit is not strongly represented in the project criteria mostly because there are other funding sources for Transit projects. Sometimes transit projects do get put on the Ten-Year Plan.
- NH DOT approximately \$40-45 million split between the 9 RPC's based on lane miles and population to choose projects for 2027 and 2028.
- UVLSRPC can estimate \$2-3 million to work with.
- UVLSRPC has only received 1 project solicitation and looking for more projects not already in the plan.
- Cost estimates are ultimately reviewed by NH DOT.
- Right of Way acquisition can be included in cost.
- NH DOT will not fully fund sidewalk project. Towns would have to provide a match as well as be responsible for future maintenance.

### **Exercise in Decision Lens Software**

- Decision Lens software can be used as a tool to assist in weighting and prioritizing criteria for project scoring and ranking.
- Each attendee was given the opportunity to individually compare each criteria to other criteria.
- Mr. Edwards asked "Have the other TACs from other RPCs varied in response? Mr. Watson- Other TACs have varied some a little bit partially could be because new explanations of the software or other TAC members may have tried to pre-rank categories.
- It is up to the UVLSRPC TAC to decide whether their results will be used to represent prioritization. There may be some projects that do not score high on this weighted system that may be a priority to the region for other reasons.
- Results of this exercise and handouts will be available on [www.uvlsrpc.org](http://www.uvlsrpc.org)

### **IV. Other Business**

- The UVLSRPC TAC has decided to ask for volunteers for the Scoring Sub-Committee via email because not enough members were present at meeting.
- After the Scoring Sub-Committee is determined there will be a Doodle Poll to check availability.
- NH DOT would not get involved in Sub-Committee but will be at full TAC meetings.
- Mr. Chestnut announced that NH HB 121 regarding a volunteer increase in local car registration fees would be having a hearing on March 22, 2017 at 9:00 AM.
- There have been no updates on the Volkswagen settlement.
- Mr. Sweet moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jones seconded the motion.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.